

Amendment No. 1 to HB0353

Hill T
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 571

House Bill No. 353*

by deleting all language after the caption and substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, it is the public policy of this state to enable persons to pursue entrepreneurial and career opportunities of their choice; and

WHEREAS, many young persons in this state have left school with no more than a high school diploma, all but guaranteeing themselves a future of low-wage work and becoming a drain on the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, with the appropriate guidance and training, young adults who seek to increase their skills through career and technical training can develop a greater sense of self-worth and contribute significantly to this state; and

WHEREAS, increasing education initiatives and opportunities for prisoners is critical to lowering recidivism rates, thus saving taxpayers millions of dollars in the process; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a mechanism for career and technical training is a critical step in providing former inmates the opportunity to make sustainable incomes after their release and creating a pool of skilled workers that is beneficial to our state's economy; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that this state takes the initiative to create opportunities for persons seeking to ensure a better life for themselves and their families; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 11, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Persons who receive certified comprehensive career and technical training in high school and post high school pursuant to § 49-11-104 are eligible to receive

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equivalent credit towards the receipt of professional and occupational licenses relating to the training received. This section applies to all professions and occupations regulated under title 62, except for certified public accountants, regulated under title 62, chapter 1, and architects and engineers, regulated under title 62, chapter 2.

(b)

(1) The high school and post high school training received under this chapter must be consistent with the requirements for licensure by licensing authorities in order for persons to be eligible for equivalent credit under subsection (a).

(2) Any person aggrieved by the decision of a licensing authority concerning eligibility for equivalent credit under this section may appeal to the commissioner of commerce and insurance or the commissioner's designee for a determination of whether the training meets the requirements for licensure. An appeal under this subdivision (b)(2) must be conducted in the same manner as is provided in § 4-5-322, for a contested case hearing under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(c) The commissioner of commerce and insurance, in collaboration with the state board of education and the various departments charged with supervision of licensing authorities shall promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. All rules must be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Persons who receive certified occupational, career, or technical training in schools or correctional institutions pursuant to this chapter are eligible to receive equivalent credit towards the receipt of an occupational license relating to the training received.

(b)

(1) The occupational, career, or technical training received pursuant to title 4, chapter 6 must be consistent with the requirements for licensure by licensing authorities in order for persons to be eligible for equivalent credit under subsection (a).

(2) Any person aggrieved by the decision of a licensing authority concerning eligibility for equivalent credit under this section may appeal to the commissioner of commerce and insurance or the commissioner's designee for a determination of whether the training meets the requirements for licensure. An appeal under this subdivision (b)(2) must be conducted in the same manner as is provided in § 4-5-322, for a contested case hearing under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(c) The commissioner of commerce and insurance, in collaboration with the commissioner of correction and the various departments charged with supervision of licensing authorities shall promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. All rules must be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.